



**CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT**

**Smith House Skilled Nursing Facility  
Board of Director's Meeting  
Government Center  
888 Washington Boulevard  
4th Floor – Democratic Caucus Room  
Stamford, CT 06901  
Thursday, May 21, 2015  
8 A.M.**

**Board Members Present:** Sharon Bradley, Ellen Bromley, Moira Colangelo, Dr. Robert Erikson, Mary Fideli, Sal Gabriele (8:31AM), Michael Handler, Ted Jankowski, Shelley Michelson, Vito Quivelli, Christopher Tasik (8:21AM), Dr. Henry Yoon (8:24AM)

**Member(s) Absent:** Anne Fountain, Dorothy Mueller, Lewis (Chuck) Pace, Michael Pansini

**Other Attendees:** Robert Mislow, Robert Robitaille

Meeting called to order at 8:10AM by Vice Chair, Sharon Bradley

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of the April 17, 2015 meeting were approved, with abstentions from those not at the meeting.
2. **Chairman's Report** – Ms. Bradley introduced two new members of the Smith House board, Dr. Robert Erikson and Shelley Michelson.
3. **Financial Report** – Mr. Robitaille reported that the occupancy rate at Smith House is still at 90%, just slightly higher than the 88% occupancy rate for Fairfield County. Nursing homes are experiencing decreased occupancy rates due to the shift to caring for people in their homes. Therefore, the types of patient that are seen in the nursing home are increasingly more complex than those previously cared for. Mr. Robitaille reviewed the cash lag statement and Ms. Michelson inquired about the Smith House write-off policy. Mr. Robitaille reported he works with outside counsel and that if unsuccessful, then all write-offs go to the Smith House Board for review and or comment. Mr. Tasik commented on the limitations of having only a part-time billing person, relying instead on outside contractors. A discussion followed regarding the positive outcomes from installing the EMR system and the related accounting systems which will exponentially reduce manual processing throughout Smith House. The EMR contract is stalled in the City legal department, Ms. Fideli will contact legal to determine what is needed to move the contract along and report to the board in June.

The discussion regarding the projected loss for Smith House for FY 2015 revolved around the continued struggles with labor, benefits and pension costs that the Smith House management and board do not control.

4. **Executive Director's Report** - Mr. Mislow reported that the Federal State of Connecticut inspectors were currently at Smith House for the annual inspection. There have been at least five inspectors in the building for the last four days with no indications of any deficiencies to-date. Mr. Milsow reported that if this trend held, Smith House was likely to attain a four-star rating. The board gave both Mr. Mislow and his staff a well-deserved round of applause for a job well done.

Mr. Mislow reported that he will be working with Remedy/Stamford Hospital to further promote the Remedy project and its objectives. The project is going well at Smith House and it is a compliment to Mr. Mislow that he was asked to participate in the video.

Mr. Mislow reported that progress is being made with United Healthcare regarding a contract and a contract may be in place by January 2016. Several large employers, including Stamford Hospital use United Healthcare as the provider of choice. A contract with United will significantly increase the likelihood of increased referrals and occupancy at Smith House.

5. **Committee Reports –**

- a. **Marketing** – The contract is held up in legal, stopping progress.
- b. **Medical** – The contract is pending for Dr. Slutsky.
- c. **Operations, Capital Expenditure Budget Review & Requests** – Architects are bidding on the roof project. The generator replacement project is proceeding with State correspondence and documents they need for the grant funding. The Center's bus will be arriving in June.
- d. **Financial:** As indicated above.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:14 AM**

**The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, June 18, 2015 at Smith House.**

Respectfully submitted by

Moira T. Colangelo  
Secretary